

Message Text

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54

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 NEA-09 ISO-00 FEA-01 ERDA-05 AID-05 CEA-01

CIAE-00 CIEP-01 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-07 FPC-01 H-02

INR-07 INT-05 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-03 SAM-01

OES-03 SP-02 SS-15 STR-04 TRSE-00 FRB-03 /090 W

----- 118820

R 261500Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY GABORONE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6441

INFO AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY MASERU

AMEMBASSY MBABANE

AMEMBASSY MUSCAT

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ENRG BC

SUBJECT: BOTSWANA PETROLEUM ARRANGEMENT WITH SAUDI ARABIA

REF: A) STATE 051706; B) GABORONE 0116 (NOTALS)

1. MR. D. P. (PAT) MALEY OF SNODGRASS ASSOCIATES CALLED ON CHARGE' MARCH 24 TO PROVIDE A PROGRESS REPORT ON HIS DEALINGS WITH THE GOVERNMENT OF BOTSWANA ON PETROLEUM MATTERS. MR. MALEY SAID HE HAD BEEN HERE SINCE MARCH 19, DEEPLY INVOLVED IN DISCUSSIONS WITH RICHARD MANNATHOKO, PERMANENT SECRETARY, MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY AND OTHERS. MR. MALEY CONFIRMED THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF BOTSWANA IS VERY SENSITIVE ABOUT THE SNODGRASS STUDY AND ITS RESULTS.

2. HE WAS ABLE, HOWEVER, TO PROVIDE THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION:

A. THE GOVERNMENT IS QUITE PLEASED WITH THE SNODGRASS REPORT

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AND HAS RETAINED SNODGREASS (UNDER ITS NEW NAME OF D. P. MALEY

ASSOCIATES) ON AN ANNUAL BASIS TO ADVISE THE GOVERNMENT ON ENERGY AND ASSOCIATED MATTERS.

B. THE RECENTLY ANNOUNCED GOB DECISION TO USE ARAB FUNDS TO BUILD OIL STORAGE TANKS IS IN LINE WITH ONE OF THE SNODGRASS RECOMMENDATIONS.

C. MALEY SAID HE WAS LEAVING THE SAME DAY FOR MUSCAT AND WILL BE RETURNING TO SOUTHER AFRICA AT THE END OF APRIL TO BEGIN DISCUSSIONS WITH BRITISH PETROLEUM (BP) ON AN AGREEMENT FOR PROCESSING, TRANSPORTING, AND STORING BOTSWANA OIL IN THE TO BE BUILT STORAGE FACILITIES. BP HAS APPARENTLY ALREADY AGREED TO UTILIZE THESE STORAGE FACILITIES IN BOTSWANA FOR STORAGE OF ITS OWN PRODUCT, WHICH WILL GIVE BOTSWANA AN ADDITIONAL RESERVE. AFTER REACHING AGREEMENT IN PRINCIPLE WITH BP, MALEY THEN PLANS TO GO TO SAUDI ARABIA TO REACH FINAL AGREEMENT ON PROVISION OF THE OIL.

3. MALEY WAS IMPRESSED WITH THE DECISIVENESS WITH WHICH THE GOVERNMENT OF BOTSWANA HAS ACTED ON THE RECOMMENDATIONS. HE FEELS THEY WILL BE IN GOOD SHAPE IF THINGS CONTINUE AS SO FAR PROGRESSED.

4. FOR MASERU AND MBABANE: MALEY INDICATED INTEREST IN OTHER INVESTMENT POSSIBILITIES IN LESOTHO AND SWAZILAND AND SUGGESTED HE MIGHT VISIT EITHER OR BOTH ON HIS NEXT TRIP TO SOUTHERN AFRICA. CHARGE' OFFERED TO PASS THIS INFORMATION TO THE POSTS IN QUESTION.

THOMSEN

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